

In The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an automotive vehicle comprising:

determining a forward direction of the vehicle and generating a forward direction signal;

determining a reverse direction of the vehicle and generating a reverse direction signal;

applying brake-steer to reduce a turning radius of the vehicle beyond that corresponding to a steering input by the application of brakes in response to the forward direction signal as a function of a first threshold; and

applying brake-steer to reduce the turning radius of the vehicle beyond that corresponding to the steering input by the application of brakes in response to the reverse direction signal as a function of a second threshold different than the first threshold.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a shift lever.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a push button.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a transmission controller.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a wheel speed sensor.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce ~~[[a]]~~ the vehicle turning radius.

7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to a first wheel.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises increasing normal load on at least one wheel.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a shift lever.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a push button.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a transmission controller.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a wheel speed sensor.

13. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce ~~[[a]]~~ the vehicle turning radius.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to a first wheel.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises increasing normal load on at least one wheel.

16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second threshold is less than the first threshold.

17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second threshold is greater than the first threshold.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel angle and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a yaw rate and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and said yaw rate.

20. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel torque and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel torque.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel angle and a vehicle velocity and wherein applying brake-

steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle and vehicle velocity.

22. (Currently Amended) A vehicle comprising:
means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal;

means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal; and

a controller coupled to the ~~shift-lever~~ means to determine a forward direction and the means to determine a reverse direction, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer to reduce a turning radius of the vehicle beyond that corresponding to a steering input by the application of brakes in response to the forward direction signal as a function of the first threshold and apply brake-steer to reduce the turning radius of the vehicle beyond that corresponding to a steering input by the application of brakes in response to the reverse direction signal as a function of the second threshold different than the first threshold.

23. (Original) A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying a first brake and a second brake to reduce the turning radius of the vehicle.

24. (Currently Amended) A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce ~~[[a]]~~ the vehicle turning radius.

25. (Original) A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to the first wheel.

26. (Original) A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a steering wheel angle sensor generating a steering wheel angle signal, said

controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and the steering wheel angle signal.

27. (Original) A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a yaw rate sensor generating a yaw rate signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and yaw rate signal.

28. (Original) A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a steering wheel torque sensor generating a steering torque signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering torque signal.

29. (Original) A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a steering wheel angle sensor generating a steering wheel angle signal and a vehicle velocity sensor generating a vehicle velocity signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle and vehicle velocity signal.

30. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a shift lever.

31. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a push button.

32. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a transmission controller.

33. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a wheel speed sensor.

34. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a shift lever.

35. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a push button.

36. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a transmission controller.

37. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a wheel speed sensor.